



PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

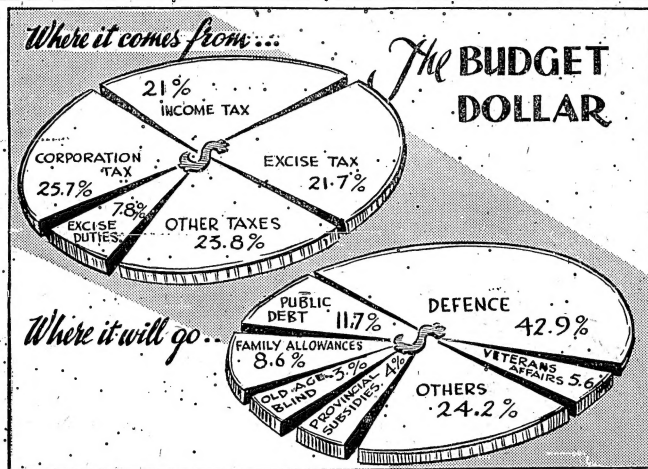


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C.C.F. Hits 'Rich Man's Budget'



'Bitter Pill' For The People To Swallow

OTTAWA (CPA).—This year's budget not only has done nothing to solve the rampant inflationary situation in Canada today, but by the "evil" sales tax has "further increased the already oppressive high cost of living," M. J. Coldwell, C.C.F. National Leader, charged on April 16 as opposition leaders had their day in attacking the "rich man's budget" brought down by the Liberal government.

Time proved too short for Mr. Coldwell to say all that he could have found to say about this budget. He hit hardest at the new 25% sales tax, pointing out that not only had this government tax increased prices but "some business interests", in the absence of price control, have taken advantage of this excuse to increase their prices and profits beyond the actual amount of the tax.

Hit Low Incomes

"These taxes hit hardest those who can least bear the blow," said Mr. Coldwell.

The C.C.F. want-of-confidence motion regretted "the failure of the government to exempt from the proposed 20% defence surtax the incomes of single persons up to \$3,500 and the incomes of married persons up to \$3,000."

The C.C.F. supported the Con- (Continued on page 3)

\$500 Worse Off!

In spite of the apparent increases in cash returns to labor and some agricultural producers, M. J. Coldwell, M.P., told a radio audience on Tuesday, that a Canadian family of five is more than \$500 worse off in actual goods and services than in 1946.

Finance Minister Abbott's budget had, he said, "some bitter pills for the people to swallow."

He charged that the federal government had "invaded the provincial field of direct taxation to such an extent that the less-favored provinces cannot maintain the standards of education and of social services without additional revenue which in my opinion now must be provided by grants from the federal treasury."

No Election Seen Due To Resignations

According to latest word from London, the resignation of Aneurin Bevan from the British Ministry of Labor, Harold Nicholson from the Board of Trade Post and John Freeman, Parliamentary Secretary to the Supply Ministry, will not mean an immediate general election in Britain.

Following an emergency cabinet meeting it was indicated that while the three rebel ministers will continue to attack the arms program, they will avoid doing anything which might bring down the government.

Reasons given for the resignations were opposition to increased armament expenditures to the point where they claimed it would (Continued on page 5)

Farm Delegation

Immediate Price Controls Sought

OTTAWA (CPA).—"Price control immediately" was the very first demand of the Farmers' Unions of Alberta, the B.C. Block, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, in their joint submission to the federal government on April 9.

The opening remarks of the brief described the "rapidly widening gap between prices for agricultural products in relation to prices the farmer has to pay for the things he must buy."

The farm delegation made it clear that they did not seek, nor would they support a "price freeze", as this would mean fixing (Continued on page 7)



PERSONAL STUFF

BY E. E. R.

SANTA CRUZ, California.—The MacArthurs and the Rogers arrived in San Francisco at the same time on Tuesday evening. There were big crowds on the streets. Probably to see the MacArthurs! Without doubt this is the weirdest political situation in history. In a dictatorship when a military figure is removed from high command because of suspected disagreement with the government, he is removed—period. This MacArthur business must be the craziest opposite extreme. Probably many who read this will have heard the General's speech to Congress. That it was a dramatic utterance no one could deny. But more significant than the speech are the circumstances surrounding its delivery. Here is a man who, because he has insisted on making internationally publicized statements contrary to the policies of the government he serves, is dismissed from his command. That is usually the beginning of an eclipse, at least temporarily, for a military figure. In this case the deposed commander comes back to his homeland on a wave of popular adulation, and, by invitation if you please, is given every facility to repeat to the governing bodies of the nation, with the whole populace listening, the statements which caused his dismissal. It is a remarkable tribute to the mechanics of democracy, I think, that orderly, stabilized government can continue to function so smoothly in such circumstances.

It is perhaps too early to assess the effect of the MacArthur speech on the controversy which became the nation's major public (Continued on page 8)

In Britain

More Taxes For Rich, Relief For Low Incomes

Old Age Pensions

'Two Feet High' Of Liberal Promises

OTTAWA (CPA).—A stack of Liberal promises over two feet high, piled on Stan Knowles' desk in the Commons chamber on the evening of April 17, was "startling testimony to his argument that the government has talked enough about old age pension reform over the last ten years," and all that is needed now is action.

The C.C.F. member from Winnipeg North Centre, piled report on report, beginning with the Sirois Commission findings in 1940, "when I thought we were surely approaching the millennium", adding Special Committee reports, the Marsh report, Green Books and Blue Books, a pre-election draft bill, right up to last year's excellent study of the subject by a special parliamentary committee.

"Last year's committee recommended the removal of the means test at age 70, this pension to be paid entirely by the federal government, and the inauguration of a pension at 65, to be paid 50-50 by the provinces and the Dominion." "We thought that was the end of talking about these things, that we were going to get some action. Well, that book does not remain (Continued on page 8)

By KENNETH C. RATHBONE MANCHESTER, Eng. (CPA)

Faced with ever-increasing expenditures on armaments, the Labor government in its latest budget could do little more than put the greatest burden on those most able to bear them and give some relief to the more hard-pressed.



British people are still, therefore, fortunate in having a Labor-government in these difficult times. Conservatives have made it quite clear that if they were in office, the (Continued on page 8)

Douglas Here

Liberals Worried About Sask. Vote

With the tide running in favor of the C.C.F., the Liberal opposition in Saskatchewan are now afraid the provincial government is going to fall at election, Premier T. C. Douglas told an Edmonton C.C.F. luncheon meeting arranged by the Women's Club in Woodsworth House last Thursday.

Although in the last provincial general election the C.C.F. had 26,000 more votes than it had in the previous contest, it had lost a number of seats and had been defeated in a number of ridings in the federal campaign in 1949, explained Mr. Douglas in pointing out that the tide was now turning in favor of the C.C.F.

Like Insurance Plans A contributing factor toward (Continued on page 7)

Michael Foot, M. P. On The CBC May 6th

TORONTO (CPA).—Michael Foot, British Labor Party M.P., will be the special speaker on a C.B.C. Trans-Canada network broadcast on Sunday, May 6, after the evening CBC news broadcast. (Schedules were not available at time of going to press, but it is presumed the broadcast will be at 7:20 p.m. daylight saving time.)



Mr. Foot is flying to Toronto to address a public meeting on Friday, May 4.

Apart from his parliamentary duties, Mr. Foot is joint editor of the London Tribune and a regular B.B.C. commentator. A graduate of Oxford, he started his career as a journalist with the New Statesman, then became editor of the Evening Standard. He is now political columnist of the Daily Herald. He defeated Harold-DeLish in 1945 and Randolph Churchill in 1950 to take his seat in the Commons for Devonport. He is on the national executive of the Labor Party.

Watchdog For The People

The C.C.F. In The Legislature

By A. J. E. LIESEMER, M.L.A.

Who reported on the work of the C.C.F. M.L.A.'s in a "Provincial Affairs" broadcast last week

THE SESSION of the Alberta legislature which ended a week ago Saturday was in many ways the most fruitful session which I have ever attended. I am going to review several different items that came before the House in which I think you will be interested. Some are of interest mainly to farmers, some mainly to city people, but most of them are of interest to all Albertans.

Mr. Roper, Provincial Leader of the C.C.F., and I believe that during the years we have been in the House we have been able to provide a good influence on the government and on legislation. Our proposals in the legislature were usually turned down—sometimes with sneers and jeers. But very often during the session that followed they were put into effect—at least partly. This has been true in connection with oil leases, weed control, livestock diseases, help to municipalities, public welfare and pensions, labor legislation, highways, education and many other matters. In the session which is just over, however, while many of our proposals were rejected as before, nevertheless we had the satisfaction of having the government accept several which we know will benefit the people of this province.

Urge Wooded Land

The first two matters which I am going to report upon were among those primarily of interest to farmers and were among those C.C.F. motions which were turned down. Mr. Roper moved that where land has not been entirely cleared it be required that a strip of wooded land be left as a means of preventing destruction of soil by wind. This problem, which has long been serious in Southern Alberta, is becoming equally serious in Central and Northern Alberta. Mr. Ure, Minister of Agriculture, reported on what the government is doing particularly with respect to its tree-planting program. He felt this to be adequate. We believe, however, that it is foolish to clear land today only to have to undertake expensive tree-planting tomorrow. Perhaps some tax exemption could be granted where a strip of wooded land is left. But until this practice becomes general the dust storms that rage over this province will continue. And every dust storm means the loss of precious fertility that is the greatest natural resource of the people of this province now and in the future.

Rural Electrification

The second C.C.F. agricultural proposal was Mr. Roper's motion asking the government to reconsider providing electric power under public ownership.

This, too, was turned down,

but the debate established one important point. Dr. Robinson, Minister of Industry and Labor, argued that from the point of kilowatt rates alone the Alberta farmer paid private power companies little more than the Manitoba farmer paid the government-owned power company there. That gave Mr. Roper a made-to-order opportunity to establish beyond question that beyond the kilowatt rate the Alberta farmer was paying, at the most conservative estimate, at least another \$30 a year additional because of the fact that he has to pay the cost of the line. In Manitoba he does not have this cost as it is paid ultimately out of the amount which under private ownership in Alberta makes up the private profit. Not until we get public ownership of electric power will the farmers of Alberta ever get this benefit.

Of course, it must be admitted that farmers who in 1948 voted Social Credit have themselves to blame. The overwhelming number of farmers voted for public ownership on the plebiscite. Yet at the same instant, many of the same farmers voted for the Social Credit candidate whose government was completely and openly opposed to public ownership.

Benefactor of Big Shots

Mr. Aberhart used to say that if you haven't suffered enough under other parties it's your God-given right to suffer some more. That now applies to the Social Credit government of Alberta, for since Mr. Aberhart's time it has become more completely the benefactor of the big shots—the power corporations, the oil companies, the insurance companies—than any other government in Canada. If farmers are suffering by paying too high for their power, or by doing without it because they can't pay that price, and if they still want to maintain confidence in this Conservative government, it certainly is their right to continue to suffer. And continue to suffer they will, for this Alberta Social Credit is completely opposed to public ownership.

Plead For Widows

The next few matters upon which I report to you are of primary interest to city people in the main. Mr. Roper, the Provincial Leader of the C.C.F., moved that widows under the Workmen's Compensation Act who became widows prior to 1948 and are, therefore, receiving \$40, \$35 or \$20, in future receive the same as those who became widows since 1948—namely, \$50 a month. This, of course, was part of my Workmen's Compensation Committee minority recommendation to



A. J. E. LIESEMER, M.L.A.



ELMER E. ROPER, M.L.A.

the legislature in 1948. After the debate, which stretched out over several days, the government finally undertook to appoint a committee to inquire into the entire act this summer and bring in recommendations to the next session in February, 1952. While widows unfortunately will have to wait another year, the whole act is up for review, a full year sooner than it would have been if the C.C.F. had not introduced the motion, and Mr. Roper and I are delighted to have been instrumental in bringing this about.

The government may have been influenced in taking this action by the fact that there will almost certainly be an election in the summer of 1952 following the session in February. But we won't complain about that—that apparently is how democracy works. I believe governments would be a good deal more likely to do what the people want if they had to stand for re-election oftener than they do.

On the next motion the C.C.F. proposal was accepted in the main. We moved that the House ask the federal government to retain rent control or that as an alternative the province assume control. The request to the federal government was deleted on a motion by the Liberals, but the request for the province to enter the rent control field was accepted and later in the session the government introduced a bill to provide the money to set up a

provincial rent control administration.

The Rent Control Act that Alberta has will be good or poor depending entirely on how it is administered. Undoubtedly, there will be some rent increase. But if the act is fearlessly and well administered there need be no wild runaway rent increases in this province. Again, Mr. Roper and I feel gratified that the government has agreed with our proposal.

Penalize Retired Civil Servants

On the next matter I feel the government has acted unfairly. Under the present Civil Service Superannuation Act retiring civil servants get a pension of \$50. Those who retired under the old acts get \$35 and some \$30 a month. The government finally agreed to give these a bonus of \$10. Then later they said this would only be given until they reached 70 years of age. Now most of these people are 70 years old or will be shortly. So that with one hand the government gave a small bonus and with the other took it away. The C.C.F. will continue the fight for justice for these few people who are being treated unfairly.

City Charter

The next matter is the City Act. Last year Mr. Gerhart introduced the odious County Act. Under it, rural people are being forced into a less democratic form of government, no matter how many of them are against it. This year, the same Mr. Gerhart, in the same dictatorial manner, is regimenting the cities into a uniform type of government regardless of how they feel about it. Centralization, uniformity, regimentation is the keynote of most of the things that are introduced by Mr. Gerhart.

Mr. Gerhart made some concessions to individual cities but remained adamant on others. For example, Calgary has long had an elected commissioner. Upon three occasions a Calgary council that favored an appointed commissioner or city manager, put it to the Calgary citizens, and on each occasion the Calgary people turned it down, believing that people who rule should be elected. Now, however, when the new City Act comes into force, the commissioner will be appointed. Moreover, once he is appointed he cannot be removed except by a two-third majority vote of the aldermen. Sixty-five per cent of the people and the council could be opposed to a commissioner and he'll still be their boss—his job will be a lifetime job, with no democratic right to get rid of him.

I moved that in Calgary the commissioner remain elected until the people of Calgary decided by plebiscite that they wanted to change. Apparently Mr. Gerhart was afraid that the people of Calgary would once more turn down the idea of an appointed commissioner for he would not agree. So, regardless of what we want in Calgary, we're going to have an appointed commissioner, who will be entrenched for life.

Two days before the end of the session, Mr. Gerhart introduced an amendment to the City Act, under which in future candidates for the position of mayor, aldermen and school trustees

will have to be property owners. Members of parliament at Ottawa and M.L.A.'s at Edmonton do not have to be property owners, but in future city legislators will have to own property. No matter how much the citizens may want a certain person on the council or the school board they cannot have him if he does not own property.

Both the Calgary City Council and the Calgary Trades and Labor Council wired in objections to this amendment. Mr. Roper and I moved to have the property qualification deleted. But Mr. Gerhart would not listen to it. Do you know what his argument was? Three cities do not want a property qualification; four cities do. And he, Mr. Gerhart, insisted that all cities act exactly alike. Mr. Gerhart has a positive passion for uniformity and is willing to regiment everybody into a dead-level of uniformity whether they want to be regimented or not.

(To Be Continued)

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The People Speak



'Bitter Pill'

(Continued from page 1)
servative amendment, which condemned government failure to halt the rising cost of living.

"I do not agree that we have to rely on conditions in the United States or have to be governed by what happens within the borders of our great neighbor," Mr. Coldwell said, in renewing the C.C.F. demand for "a comprehensive national economic plan and the immediate institution of price controls and subsidies".

Severe Knock

"A most objectionable feature of the tax proposals is the new levy of 15% on domestic refrigerators, washing machines and stoves—except those designed for the burning of coal and wood. I wonder what percentage of the houses that have been built in this city over the past number of years have chimneys so situated that the pipes of a coal or wood stove could be connected to them? Those establishing new homes are given a very severe knock indeed by the minister's budget."

Mr. Coldwell argued that the money to be raised through taxes on household equipment "should have been obtained by increased levies on users of alcoholic beverages, and indeed a wide range of other luxuries".

To relieve the plight of those who must furnish and maintain homes on moderate or low incomes Mr. Coldwell suggested, "types of household goods and articles of clothing manufactured according to standard utility specifications, classed as 'utility' goods and exempt from both sales and excise taxes".

Aid "Loan Sharks"

The government's stiffer credit regulations appeared to have brought prosperity to the "loan sharks", Mr. Coldwell charged. He called the 18% interest charged by small loan and finance companies "usurious" and urged a reduction of this rate by legislation.

Turning to those whom Mr. Abbott had treated "tenderly" in the budget, the corporations, Mr. Coldwell said they are "enjoying unprecedented prosperity and profits".

While family incomes sagged under the heavy cost of living, corporation profits have been mounting to tremendous heights year after year. "Even after taxes, corporation profits in 1950 will amount to \$1,402 million, an increase of 19.7% over the 1949 figure." One hundred Canadian firms whose financial years coincide closely with the calendar year showed a profit increase on the average of 27.4% over 1949.

destroy the purchasing power of the community through inflation and reduce the standards of life in every country of the western world. With people's hopes for security and homes dashed to the ground, with their savings wiped out, their faith in democracy is being shattered. Apathy and cynicism will prepare the ground for seeds of totalitarian ideologies. The assistance to slum nations will be postponed by the needs of the armament program. Social justice will be delayed. Which all adds to the aggravation of the conditions that bring about expansion of communism or fascism."

Those who permit bitterness, fear and hatred to dominate their attitudes may well turn out to be the real dupes and stooges of the Politburo.

TAKES PREMIER TO TASK

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: During the recent session, one was rather amused at the news report of opposition to a Provincial Hansard, and reasons given for it. What are our politicians afraid of? As the Chinamah says, "TRUTH will show up in debate, or when angry men try to tell lies."

There exists a world-wide ferment against oppression and injustice, that will not down; and any legitimate means of assisting the expression and dissemination of differing views should be encouraged, so that progress and unity may be reached.

When the Premier disparages even the MOTIVES of Members of the House, who introduce resolutions which reveal how much they differ with him, he only exposes egoism and lack of fairness.

Why should HE be so ready to jump into the JUDGMENT SEAT? He doesn't know ALL the answers, even if he thinks he knows more about the Books of Daniel and Revelations than did the writers themselves. His Sunday broadcasts are likely to BOOMERANG—sooner than he thinks. The Eastern church refused for centuries to admit Revelations as canonical; and the West accepted it by only a majority of one vote.

And Daniel was written to encourage opposition to the Greek tyrant, Antiochus, who the Macabees successfully opposed.

APOCALYPTIC notions are of PAGAN and not Jewish origin. Jesus naturally inherited them, but mostly discouraged them. "It is not for you to know the Times and Seasons which God hath set in His own authority." And as they persisted, "When shall these things be?" he replied, "THIS generation shall 'not' pass away until ALL these things be fulfilled."

People are asking, "WHY these RADIO BLAST PROGNOSTICATING? I can recall similar speeches sixty years ago. It is so EASY, and if it fails, you just push ahead the date. EASY but USELESS! except to keep the superstitious in awe and voting for you."

That's what I'm told. But practical Christianity, as per the Sermon on the Mount, and Nazareth, the parables, etc., well, opponents and cowards alike are AT ONE in postponing it to a Home beyond the moon, while they gather in their corruptible things.

The only way to beat godless communism is by applied CHRISTIANITY, of which so many are mortally AFRAID.

Mr. Manning hopes the Liberal Member for Calgary will always have a CLEAR CONSCIENCE!

Why is his so DULL on the Liquor issue? "No useful purpose would be served by turning the LIGHT on it," says he. Secret arrangements for the supply of more and more booze! Even Labor, that is supposed to like it, protests that Brewery facilities are more than AMPLE for twenty years. In reply to them he DODGES the issue by parroting about being opposed to monopoly.

What a CONSCIENCE! Hansard isn't half enough. But the people have a perfect right to know about these public matters and will insist more and more. And be assured that no amount of Apocalyptic imagery is again going to scare them.

RALPH W. SINCLAIR.
Edmonton.

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 500 words in length.

MORE ABOUT THE THIRD

FORCE

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: While I agree with Mr. Ed. Blain of Hanna, of peace through negotiation (March 17), I cannot agree in all respects with Mr. Donald C. MacDonald of March 3rd. I feel that we socialists are gradually being sold down the river by acquiescing too readily with all and sundry brought forward and passed as policy and strategy in the United Nations.

The United Nations has turned out to be a mere mouthpiece for the United States, a purely capitalist power bloc, taking into their fold former convicted Nazi criminals and now extending the glad hand to Fascist Spain. How can we socialists tolerate this?

It is true there is no group of nations sufficiently socialistic to be an effective third force, but I believe there are sufficient socialistically minded people in all nations including those behind the so-called Iron Curtain—whom if knitted together can be an effective third force, for peace and progressive prosperity we socialists visualize. Broadcasts now being beamed to Russia and kindred powers by the western power bloc are capitalizing on the unrest and soliciting sympathy for the "Our" e.i. "American Way of Life." These people will have no

return of Tsar and Fascist inclined clerical days, but seek the co-operative society. The Western Power bloc or United Nations if allowed to further pursue its present trend will end up a Capitalist Clerical Fascism as tyrannical as any heretofore known regime.

I feel that we C.C.F.'ers have been too negligent in pointing the way of the co-operative society, or "middle way" as the alternative and third force in today's seemingly already paved two alternatives only. The day may not be far off when we will be all too sorry for this. No, we must not allow ourselves to be swept aside or buried in the propaganda of the times.

J. H. COLDWELL.

Jasper, Alta.

Two of three girls who had grown up together married, and thereafter they continually annoyed their spinster friend with tactless remarks about her unhappy condition.

She laughed off their comments good-naturedly until one day they went a bit too far.

"Now tell us truthfully," they twitted her, "have you ever really had a chance to marry?"

With a withering glance, she retorted, "Suppose you ask your husbands."

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GETTING OFF EASILY

IN a radio address the Conservative party leader, Mr. George Drew, said that it would cost each Canadian taxpayer \$25.00 to pay the farmers \$65,000,000 granted to them as payment for wheat sold by them below market price during and after the war. Is it not rather strange that Mr. Drew did not figure out also how much less each taxpayer had to pay for bread during the period when the farmers subsidized the price of wheat to the Canadian millers? And would it not have been more fair had the Conservative leader computed the farmers' loss both during the period they subsidized the millers and during the four years of the wheat agreement?

Western farmers were treated very badly in both wars. During World War I the price of wheat was fixed far below the market price. It was the only essential consumer commodity price that was so fixed. For all other goods the sky was the only limit. But there was no floor put under the price of wheat when it started to go down and went out of sight in the cellar. Then in 1945 when the price ceilings which were put on during World War II were removed the price of wheat was fixed so that the farmer had to pay an unfixed price for all he bought. If then, the Canadian taxpayers can get off with paying only \$25.00 each, they are getting off cheaply. \$65,000,000 is only a fraction of what the people of Canada owe western farmers.

It was good business from the point of view of orderly marketing and a guaranteed price for farmers to sell wheat at a fixed price over a period of years. But it was bad business for the government to remove price controls on the things farmers had to buy and thus to leave an uncontrolled and disastrous inflation to run rampant.

EQUALITY OF SACRIFICE

CANADIAN Congress of Labor officials have described the 1951-52 budget as a blow to the working class. A 20 per cent increase in personal income tax, increased taxes on household equipment and an increase in the sales tax will all tend to force working people and farmers to a lower standard of living. Meanwhile as consumer goods become more scarce and as the expenditure of five billion dollars on armaments proceeds, uncontrolled prices will rise still higher.

It is, of course, clear to everyone that as long as armament production is the chief objective of industry, there is bound to be a lowering of living standards, but that should not be confined to the wage earners, farmers and those of fixed low incomes. Profits still are unlimited. Industrial stocks mount higher in keeping with rising prices and increased demand for goods. These sources of income from which the few grow rich should be tapped. This is the time when our boasted equality of sacrifice should register itself on the balance sheets of the privileged few.

SO WHAT?

INSPIRED articles are constantly appearing in the daily press telling of the tremendous and rising costs of the British health services. Of course that is to be expected and the motive is well understood. One of the latest of these tells the world that the cost of free health services to every individual in Britain will be £398,000,000 during this fiscal year. So what?

Do these quill-pushing news vendors ever think of estimating what it would cost to give the same health services to all the people of Britain if the government turned the whole health problem over to private enterprise where it used to be? If they do ever try to estimate that, they will find either that it would cost more under private enterprise than it is costing now or else that a very large percentage of the public will have little or no health service at all. It is the few people who can afford to buy the best doctors and the best hospitals who are protesting the cost. The real question is: do the British people want health or lower taxes?

Always on the alert, Stanley Knowles, C.C.F. member for Winnipeg North Centre, called the Liberal bluff on old age pensions with good dramatic effect in the House of Commons recently. He told the government it was time they stopped talking about old age pension reform and did something about it. Knowles then proceeded to pile on his desk report after report of numerous government commissions and committees on old age pensions until they reached a height of almost thirty inches. It was mighty embarrassing for the government and we have an idea it may have had something to do with Prime Minister St. Laurent's belated announcement that he did not intend to include old age pensions when he indicated that social security would have to take a back seat to defence expenditures. Another illustration that C.C.F. M.P.'s are a good investment for the people.

THE THIRD COLUMN

"WHOLLY INADEQUATE"

Angus MacInnis, M.P.,
in the House of Commons:

"There is in my opinion a case for price controls. That case is the deplorable economic conditions of thousands in Canada who are trying to eke out a living on incomes which are wholly inadequate. (He named pensioners, those on small superannuation allowances, those on social assistance, and unorganized workers with low incomes, as well as small businessmen and marginal farmers.) The welfare of these income groups is as important to us today in the world in which we are living as is the defence of this country through military effort, because if we do not make secure the lives of our people while we have the means to make them secure, we cannot defend ourselves from these evils that have overtaken all governments who refused to look after the welfare of their people."

A POOR YARDSTICK

The Representative, Ledue
March 29

"According to a news story coming from Edmonton last week, tuition fees for the University of Alberta are to be raised approximately 20 per cent, beginning with next summer session, as well as for the 1951-52 school year . . .

"It is not difficult to see the justification for such increased costs . . . but we still think there is something radically wrong with our educational system . . .

"No one can estimate how much genius has been lost to the world and to this province not because the son lacked the brains but because the father lacked the cash; on the other hand it is fairly easy to determine the number of mediocre students who pushed and hauled through a university course for which they were constitutionally unfitted just because proud parents were insistent that their youngsters must receive university training even if it killed them. A sad reflection, too, is the fact that we've probably lost as many good ditch-diggers to the professions as professional men to the realms of manual labor—a loss both ways on the exchange. And who is to say that the loss of ditch-diggers is not as serious as the loss of doctors, lawyers, etc? . . .

"We're probably turning out enough university graduates now to fill the available positions—the question is, are we turning out the right ones. Any teacher or principal who has followed a boy or girl through four or five years of high school should be able to and probably can assess the pupil's adaptability for higher training. The ~~present~~ ^{present} inadequate system of filling our universities with pupils judged by brains and application, rather than by the size of father's pocketbook, the better our standards of graduates are likely to be."

FOOTPRINTS

By J. P. GRIFFIN

"Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer."



WHEN Henry II expressed his wish to be rid of this "turbulent priest" he may not have expected to be taken at his word by the men who then proceeded to murder Thomas à Beckett at the altar in Canterbury Cathedral in 1170.

In 1950, in the city of Toronto, another son of the church, who had made himself unpopular in some quarters by his activities on behalf of peace, was threatened with a violent death by an angry visitor, who may, like his British predecessors have tried to justify his evil designs upon the grounds of patriotic necessity. Certainly he will find support in the current floods of propaganda, and perhaps, may even picture himself as an avenging instrument in the hands of his own bloodthirsty god.

As one reads the editorials in the press, or listens to the radio "news", one wonders if so much hatred was ever preached to so many by so few before. Now stirring up hatred is something like playing with fire, and in its appeal to the evil passions of mankind, passions which we had hoped were buried in the uncivilized past, it is a major threat to the rule of reason upon which the maintenance of democracy depends.

The Nazis used the technique of provoking men to hatred with outstanding success, and it is unfortunate for us that they have their willing disciples in Canada today. Surely, there must be a blind spot in our sense of social

responsibility which legalizes that wholesale expression of hatred for a group of men which it so justly condemns when applied to the individual. For whether the passions aroused lead to the death of a Beckett, to the slaughter of the Jews, or to the massacre of Korean civilians, in either case the death of the innocent is the result of incitement to "murder on the part of someone."

In Edwin Markham's poem he tells us how "He drew a circle to shut me out—Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But Love and I had the wit to win. We drew a circle that took him in." Does this not sum up for us one of the vital challenges of the times? Have we the wit to win, throughout the world today? Are we clever enough, big enough, patient enough to draw a circle that takes our enemies in?

If we can, and if we do, as church unions have done when they have included in their membership traditionally irreconcilable sects; as unions do when the crafts and the trades unite for political action; as the British Commonwealth has done around its member states; then we shall win. We shall win a victory over the prejudices of the past and another round in the age-old battle for human brotherhood, and shall come a little nearer to that happy day in which God's will shall be done on earth as it is being done in Heaven right now."

Timely Topics

By William Irvine
Director of C.C.F. Organization

PRESSURE GROUP ACTION

Organized farmers and labor unions are sometimes derided by industrialists and also party politicians as "pressure groups". The amazing admission on testimony of



Mr. Cecil Morrison before the court in Calgary recently would appear to out-pressure all pressure group action in this country at least. Mr. Morrison was a director of the national council of the baking industry.

In 1942 he was appointed Bread Controller under the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. This man, who was an official of the baking industry, was made bread controller. Then, according to his own testimony, he in his capacity as controller, told the baking industry that the Combines Act was suspended insofar as bread was concerned. The date on which Mr. Morrison took it upon himself to nullify an act of parliament was not given in the press report of his testimony. But if that happened early in the period of his services as bread controller he was taking a salary or acting as a dollar-a-year man—as the case may have been—after he had actually abolished the job to which he was

appointed. For it was only under the Combines Act that anything could be done after the price of bread was fixed. Surely the people of Canada have a right to ask: what right had Mr. Cecil Morrison to set aside an act of parliament? And another thing they will want to know is why an official of any industry should be put in control of that industry under the W.P.T.B.? If it were because he may have offered to do the job for \$1.00 a year, then the price was still very much too high. He should have been charged for the privilege. At any rate, he was not a suitable man to protect the public interest in that capacity.

EQUALITY OF SACRIFICE

Prices continue to rise. The Government continues to sit with open-mouthed amazement watching them go up. The people are told that if and when national emergency demands it, prices will be controlled. How high do prices have to soar before the emergency emerges? Or in other words, how large must an emergency grow before the Government can see it?

The Government is trusting to its belated policy of higher taxes and increased down-payments on durable goods to check the rising inflationary flood. If these piffling gestures have had any effect, it is not visible except that it has

(Continued on Page 5)

AT ONTARIO CCF CONVENTION



The 17th Annual Convention of the Ontario C.C.F. was the most successful in recent years. Taking a leading part in convention proceedings were E. B. Jolliffe, K.C., M.L.A. (left), who was re-elected provincial leader and J. W. Noseworthy, M.P. (York South).

C.C.Y.M. "Thank You"

A hearty thank you goes this week to the Fertile Forest C.C.F. Club for their donation to the C.C.Y.M. finance drive.

Timely Topics

(Continued from Page 4)

increased the hardship of those in the lower income groups.

Take for example, the increase in the down-payments on durable goods. This will make no difference to those who can make the increased payment or who can pay the whole bill without requiring any credit. But the wife of a wage-worker who needs a washing machine or a refrigerator will have to do without. This sort of thing is in a sense rationing, but thoroughly unintelligent rationing. Indeed it is rationing on a class basis; rationing according to the contents of the pocketbook. If the latter is well-filled then there is no rationing; if not well-filled, then people must do without. That is, they will be rationed by lack of income.

During the last month prices are reported to have increased more than any month for several years. And we are only in the initial stages of a 5 billion dollar national expenditure on defence. This means that about 10 per cent of the national production will not be available as producer goods. As this program develops the demand for consumer goods will increase and prices will keep on going up until those of the lower income groups have been high-priced out of the market.

Most people realize that a defence program of the magnitude proposed is bound to end in a reduced standard of living. But that reduction in living standard should not be confined to lower income groups, it should be so spread as to result in equality of sacrifice. And that in turn will not and cannot come by accident; it is the fruits of intelligent planning.

Price control is urgently needed. But to control prices at the present high level to which they have been pushed by those who have deliberately prepared the ground for such an event by artificially increasing prices, is not enough. Prices must be reduced and fixed, using equitable rationing and subsidies so that the lowering of the living standard, caused by the preparation for war may be demographically equated.

Grouard Convention To Be Held On May 9th

Grouard riding will hold a C.C.F. convention at High Prairie, on Wednesday, May 9, at 2:30 p.m., with Mrs. Nellie Peterson, C.C.F. provincial secretary, and William Irvine, director of organization, addressing a meeting in the evening.

The matter of putting a C.C.F. candidate in the field in the by-election, which is expected to be held shortly, will be considered. If the convention so decides, nomination will take place at the afternoon meeting.

William Reed

Staunch Member Of CCF Passes On

William Reed, one of the C.C.F.'s most faithful supporters in Southern Alberta, has passed away at his home in Lettbridge, at the age of 80.

"Billy" Reed, as he was known by all the old-timers of the Barons and Nobleford districts, emigrated from England to Canada in 1882. He arrived in Lettbridge in 1886, married Agnes Stewart in 1906, and homesteaded in the Garden Prairie district near Barons, where his son, Wilfred Reed, now lives.

Active in Farm Movement

From the beginning of the farm movement he was active, and was a member of the U.F.A. from its inception. His heart was always in the farmers' cause and he worked unceasingly to promote its objectives.

For over thirty years William Reed was a member of the council of the Little Bow municipality and for twenty-one years was its reeve. In politics he was a member of the C.C.F. and no more staunch supporter of our movement could be found. His son Wilfred is now president of the Barons C.C.F. Club.

The C.C.F. has lost a loyal worker in the passing of William Reed, and the sympathy of the movement is extended to his family.

W.A. TO MEET

Regular monthly meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary to Edmonton Typographical Union will be held Wednesday, May 2, at the home of Mrs. William McGie, 9841-91 Ave., at 2:30 p.m.

Educate, Organize Urges Wm. Irvine

Democracy and socialism are inseparable, contended William Irvine, C.C.F. provincial organizer, when he addressed the Edmonton C.C.F. in the I.O.O.F. Hall on Tuesday evening. At present, he said, we only have a ballot box democracy with monopoly control of our economic life.

Monopolies dominate our economic life just as completely as Stalin does in the U.S.S.R., he added. It was the purpose of socialism to regain economic power for the people.

Turning to the international scene, he observed that we had become one world in spite of the fact that the statesmen haven't realized it yet. There was almost universal revolt against the domination of one class by another, of one race by another, and one nation by another and, he declared, there must be a constructive and progressive alternative to present policies. He urged the importance of the humanistic approach. Revolt couldn't be stopped by killing off the agitators, he warned. We must challenge communism with an alternative system which will remove the injustices which exist today. We must, he said, repudiate war as a method of settling disagreements and substitute international co-operation as a basis of world government.

Educate and Organize

He emphasized that the first task of the C.C.F. was "to educate and organize ourselves", always keeping in mind the objective: "To establish a social and industrial society wherein all men and women will give the work of their brains and hands for the service of all." He stressed the importance of C.C.F. locals discussing the issues of the day and thereby having a part in formulating policies at the provincial and national levels.

Out-of-town visitors at the meeting included I. V. Macklin, Grande Prairie; Sam Simpson, Fairview, and Ole Soderquist, Valleyview.

Resignation of J. W. H. Williams from the executive committee for personal reasons was accepted with regret. Congratulations were extended to Miss Marian Gimby, who was recently elected to the presidency of the Alberta Teachers' Association.

C.C.Y.M. Camp

Roy Jamha submitted a progress report on organization work, and Carroll Wenas announced plans for work parties to assist with the erection of a C.C.Y.M. camp at Pigeon Lake.

Floyd Johnson, president, reported that a C.C.F. picnic would be held at Victoria Park on June 24.

No Election

(Continued from Page 1)

endanger social services. They specifically mentioned the proposal to charge adult patients half the cost of spectacles and false teeth which were previously provided free. It is generally recognized, however, that there is a clash of personalities as well as of policies.

First rebuttal to Bevan came when the Scottish Trades Union Congress cancelled its invitation to address its annual meeting and asked "Chancellor" of the Exchequer Hugh Gaskell to be the speaker instead.

Mistress—Mary, look at this figure of Venus; it's covered with dust.

Mary—Well, ma'am, that's better than no coverin' at all.

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Building To Start Soon On CCF-CCYM Camp

A few details—including paying for it—are all that remain until the site for the C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. camp at Mulhurst on Pigeon Lake, west of Wetaskiwin, is ours. Construction will start at once.

The young people of the C.C.Y.M. are undertaking to do most of the actual construction. A week-end work party from the Edmonton, Red Deer and Calgary C.C.Y.M. Clubs will start things off on May 26. Sufficient will be done on week-ends to permit the holding of a three-day C.C.Y.M. camp on June 30, July 1 and 2. Next year a bigger C.C.Y.M. camp may be held—perhaps a joint C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. camp. Dr. John P. Liebe, of Lethbridge, is drawing up the plans and will be on hand for the first week-end work party to supervise laying out the site.

Need Funds

The C.C.Y.M., in addition to doing most of the construction, is also undertaking to raise as much funds as possible. However, since most of its members are in high

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New C.C.F. Club Is Formed, Bonnie Doon

A new C.C.F. club was organized at the Bonnie Doon home of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Christie on Monday evening, with 14 present, and Mrs. Nellie Peterson and William Irvine addressing the meeting.

J. W. Eadowsky was elected president; W. McEwen, vice-president, and Mrs. H. Scott, secretary. At the conclusion of the meeting lunch was served by Mrs. Christie.

Next meeting of the club will be held on Wednesday, May 9, at 8:00 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Frances Evans, 9026 90 Street. An invitation is extended to anyone in the neighborhood to attend.

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Calling All Women

OUTSTANDING C.C.F. WOMEN

By MRS. NELLIE PETERSON, C.C.F. Provincial Secretary
(Continued from last week)

MRS. FAIRY WALKER
Calgary has contributed so many outstanding women to the C.C.F. that I'll just have to confine myself to telling you of only one: Mrs. Fairy Walker. I've chosen Mrs. Walker because though no longer young, no longer able to move outside her home, she nonetheless does a tremendous amount of work and by her courage and vision gives inspiration to younger women who are taking on the tasks which Mrs. Walker, Miss Patterson, Miss Campbell, Mrs. Henry and others must gradually relinquish.

Mrs. Walker and her husband homesteaded in the Canby district in 1902, where they became interested and active in the "Society of Equity" and later in the U.F.A. When the Wheat Pool was organized Mrs. Walker, then widowed, was the fifth name on the list!

But politics and family weren't enough to absorb this amazing woman's energy. In Calgary she joined Knox Church choir and was for eight years—convener of International Affairs in the local Council of Women. In 1942 she became a member of the Mount Royal Educational Club and contributed papers which were widely read and discussed. Just before President Roosevelt was elected for his first term, Mrs. Walker spoke at a Democratic meeting in Santiago, California.

Mrs. Walker has two sons, both of whom hold two university degrees and one of whom served overseas in World War II.

Today, she says, "retired and full of arthritis." But Mrs. Walker had a C.C.F. organization meeting and a C.C.F. tea in her home last month and every week she holds open house for a Citizen's Forum group! I only wish, for the sake of democracy, that more women would wake up—and "retire" like Mrs. Walker. Today she rejoices with us that Calgary has—Miss Gladys Dymnes, Miss Dorothy Powe, Miss Ruth Cherry and other exceptionally able and willing women in the C.C.F. to "carry on."

Camrose

Readers of the People's Weekly will have noted that Camrose is frequently in the C.C.F. news! A splendid women's organization there, headed by Mrs. Bart McNally, Mrs. Alma McPhee and Mrs. Elsa Weiss, keeps it that way. I am always amazed at what this group achieves by its co-operative effort. Membership and People's Weekly subscriptions are kept up-to-date. Teas, bazaars and social events spotlight the C.C.F. in the Camrose area and bring in much-needed funds. In Woodsworth House, Edmonton, is a beautiful oak table and oak chairs which were placed there by this Camrose group in memory of two splendid people—Mrs. Adamson and Mr. Faulkner. Our C.C.F. hats are off to the women of this local!

The Red Deer Women's Committee of the C.C.F. consists of a fine group of workers led by Mrs. Hilda Comfort and Mrs. L. H. Taylor. Mrs. Comfort tells me that "Mrs. Taylor was instrumental in forming this committee and is a most tireless worker and leader in the C.C.F. Her enthusiasm never wavers and her efforts never flag. Her charm, tact and energy and reliability all coupled to selfishness makes Ethel Taylor as a per-

son the kind of person most of us would like to be."

Mrs. Taylor, besides being secretary-treasurer of the Red Deer Women's Committee and vice-president of that C.C.F. Constituency organization, is also president of the Red Deer Women's Institute, active in her church work and in the local Home and School Association.

Mrs. Comfort is a source of strength to the C.C.F. Her response to my letter asking for a little more information as to her own activities consisted of a lovely tribute to Mrs. Taylor. And others, which in itself proved that Hilda Comfort must be a pleasant and co-operative person to work with!

Edmonton Group

Edmonton C.C.F.'ers are proud of the activities of the Edmonton Women's C.C.F. Group, whose officers are: President, Mrs. Scott; vice-president, Mrs. E. East; and secretary, Mrs. J. W. Adair. They seem never idle, and it would be difficult to give adequate coverage to their achievements. Woodsworth House is a pleasant place in which to meet because this group furnished it with rugs, drapes, chairs, etc. Mrs. Adair is one of the indefatigable workers; banquets are her "specialties", and at least twice a year she successfully handles this difficult task. Every convention delegate appreciates her work—this I know. Mrs. Scott worked with the Co-operative movement and with the British Labor Party before coming to Canada. This thorough background in the Socialist movement, together with a constant and close interest in today's world problems, enables her to contribute much to C.C.F. discussion and thought. Mrs. Edsel East is carrying on in the tradition of her husband's well-known late father and mother—the "Jim Easts" whose leadership in the "Labor Party and later" in the C.C.F. is part of the history of our movement.

Edmonton C.C.F. people have long recognized their good fortune in having as Constituency Association secretary Miss Margaret Thompson. Margaret is the personification of efficiency and devotion.

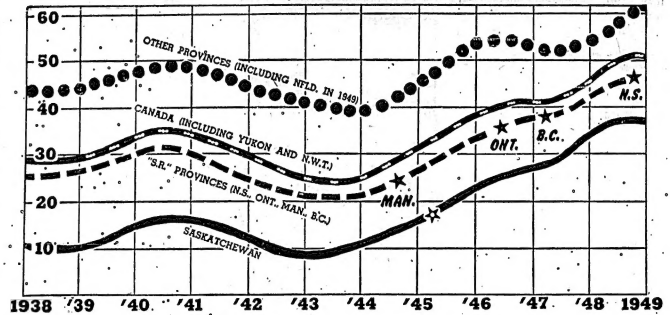
MARY CRAWFORD

I cannot "sign off" without a mention of two of the women who have contributed so much to the building of our movement—Mary Crawford and Mrs. Henry Spencer. "Mary", as she is affectionately known to hundreds of C.C.F.'ers in this province, was provincial treasurer in the days when that meant, more often than not, that "the treasurer" found the funds with which to carry on out of her own pocket! Her brilliant mind and deep understanding of national and international events in relationship to the world's progressive revolution has made her invaluable to the C.C.F.

The People's Weekly lost a widely-read contributor when Mrs. Spencer and her husband moved to British Columbia. We miss "The Country Woman" column, with its book reviews, its pithy comment! We miss Mrs. Spencer's clear good common sense approach, and her never-failing faith in the people's ability to make democracy work.

Of these women and the many others of whom space permits no mention, it can be said: "They are outstanding women in the C.C.F."

ACCIDENTS PER 1,000 VEHICLES REGISTERED



★ -- date on which SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY LAW effective

★ -- date on which AUTO ACCIDENT INSURANCE ACT effective

According to the above graph, compulsory auto insurance, such as is in effect in Saskatchewan, does not increase the accident rate, nor do Financial Responsibility laws reduce the rates. A general national increase in accident rates is shown. That most provinces follow it to some extent can be seen from the other curves on the same graph. Saskatchewan has been shown alone, and all those provinces which have Financial Responsibility laws are shown as one group while the remaining provinces are also grouped. Note that all four curves follow substantially the same pattern. The passage of FR laws or the AAIA makes no appreciable difference in the behavior of the accident rates. Thus it seems definitely established that no type of insurance legislation now in force will materially reduce the accident rate.

The figures used are not strictly comparable in that there are differences between the provinces in the property damage level above which an accident must be reported. However, since the proportion of, for example, \$25 property damage accidents to total accidents is probably fairly constant the country over, the figures are reliable as to trends. It is clear that the suggestion that people get involved in accidents because they have insurance is completely erroneous and the Saskatchewan Automobile Accident Insurance Act or any other insurance act will not make any difference to the accident rate because of the insurance provided.

Calgary CCYM Dance Was A Big Success

The Calgary CCYM dance held at Crescent Heights High School on Friday, April 20, was a marked success. About 250 young people attended. As the admission was gauged for the high school pocket-book, profits were not large but the objective of raising some money for the C.C.Y.M. National Expansion Drive and for the Alberta C.C.F.-C.C.Y.M. camp was achieved. In addition to having a good time, many young people heard of the C.C.Y.M. for the first time. Calgary C.C.Y.M. believes that it is finally on the map in a big way!

Hears Indian Secretary

Mr. John Laurie, secretary of the Indian Association of Alberta, spoke to the Calgary C.C.Y.M. at the regular meeting on Monday, April 23. Mr. Laurie said that the new Indian Act was a great improvement over the old. "Most of the more important requests of our organization were granted," said Mr. Laurie. "There are still many things to work for in improving the lot of the Canadian Indians."

Brian Smith reported on the C.C.Y.M. dance. Money was voted for the C.C.Y.M. National Expansion Drive.

Mr. Liesemer reported on progress to date with respect to the camp. Further plans were made for the first week-end work party to the campsite.

Mother (to small son wandering around the room): "What are you looking for?"

Son: "Oh, nothing."
Mother: "You'll find it in the box where the cookies were."

Doctor (after examining patient): "I don't like the looks of your husband, Mrs. Adamson."

Mrs. Adamson: "I don't either, Doctor, but he's so kind to the children."

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Immediate Price

(Continued from page 1)
prices "at present inequitable levels".

"What we definitely seek, and shall insist upon, is an adjustment of prices on a basis of parity. We further request that in the establishment of boards to ascertain the basis of these prices; as well as subsequent boards for administration on the policy level, the agricultural industry be given adequate representation thereon."

The delegation also sought floor prices for agricultural products; opposed the speculative marketing of the grain exchange and asked for orderly marketing through a board on which the producers will have majority control on the policy level. While favoring long-term agreements for the sale of their products, the farmers wanted a more definite safeguard in the matter of price received each year. The farmers asked that the ceiling price of wheat under the international agreement be raised substantially for wheat to be delivered in the remainder of the present crop year, and during the remainder of the agreement.

The lowering of all tariffs and the rapid increase in two-way trade; particularly in exchange for agricultural products was also requested.

Deplore No Control On Sharp Practices

OTTAWA (CPA)—Merchants are gouging the public on the pretext of recently increased taxes on cigarettes and candy. M. J. Coldwell stated examples in the House of Commons on April 13, calling the practice "inflationary".

Cigarettes have gone up from 36c to 40c and from 45c to 50c, though the new taxes were roughly 3c and 4c. Moreover, merchants have raised the price on all cigarettes in stock, not merely on those ordered since the budget was brought down.

The minister shrugged his shoulders. "We have no way of regulating the price the merchant asks for his goods," he said. "No price control, remember?"

For every woman who yawns for that school girl complexion there's a man who longs for that school boy digestion.

Death of Noted Laborite



R.T. HON ERNEST BEVIN,

who died on April 14, at the age of 70, a little more than a month after giving up the post of Britain's Foreign Secretary. His persistent struggle on behalf of the workers, combined with a keen mind and hard-hitting tactics brought him steadily to the fore in the trade union movement. Left an orphan at the age of eight, when his mother was taken away to Bristol and found employment as a page boy in a restaurant. In turn he became a tram conductor, grocer's assistant, and a van driver. His work as a driver took him to the Bristol docks where he joined the Dockers' Section of the Dockers' Union. From then on Ernest Bevin became closely identified with the trade union movement and in 1920 delivered his famous eleven-hour speech before the Transport Workers' Court of Inquiry in which he roared at the distinguished members of the Court and held up to ridicule their knowledge of conditions in workers' homes. The ultimate result was the establishment of a minimum standard wage for dockers which earned him the title of "The Dockers' K.C." He was elected chairman of the General Council of the British Trades Union Congress in September, 1936, and re-elected in the following year. In May, 1940, he became Minister of Labor, and in October of the same year a member of the War Cabinet. He had been Foreign Secretary since 1945. As the B.C. C.C.F. News noted, because he was "an honest and forthright man" he had little use "for the devious ways of Soviet Communism"; and was, therefore, the target for much criticism. Loyal and uncompromising in his advocacy of the principles which he espoused so early in life, he was recognized as one of the great leaders of the British Labor movement.

Speaking Of Subsidies

SOME people in Canada have been trying to make the public believe that farmers are the only ones who get subsidies or price support. They forget that for many years millions have been paid in one way or another to industry and commerce," declared H. H. Hannam, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, in an address delivered in Winnipeg recently, before the annual banquet of the Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-operative organization.

Cost Many Millions

The protective tariff for industry, which is price support in reality, over several generations, has cost the people of Canada many millions, said Mr. Hannam. The cost to the prairies alone had been \$58 millions a year, based on 1936 figures. In twenty years the cost to all the people of Canada had been something like three billions.

Although there are only 23,000 employees in Canada's gold industry, said Mr. Hannam, that industry had been subsidized by



H. H. HANNAM,
President of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, points to the millions paid out by the government in protective tariffs for industry.

the federal government in one year alone, 1949, to the extent of \$13.7 millions, in spite of the fact that 38 of the largest gold mines in that year made a net

profit of \$16 millions. The gold subsidy was in effect three years and will likely be renewed.

The subsidies on coal movements had been nearly four millions in 1949, and on steel and iron industries, over four and a half millions, Mr. Hannam pointed out. These were the latest figures available.

Special Depreciation

Through special allowances for depreciation, tax concessions, and such like, wartime industry in Canada had benefited by many millions, declared Mr. Hannam. From 1941 to 1943 private investment expenditure to the amount of \$59 millions had benefited from special inducements during the war. Special depreciation allowances, usually double the normal rate, which were granted in industry with respect to war contracts, had affected capital investments totalling \$275 millions. These special allowances for one company alone, the Aluminum Company of Canada, had benefited the company on a total capital outlay of \$179 millions.

Liberals Worried

(Continued from page 1)

this favorable trend was the Liberal government's agricultural policy which "discriminated against the farming population. The people of Saskatchewan were now recognizing also the benefits they derived from the C.C.F. government's hospital and automobile insurance schemes. Slow to appreciate these benefits at first, the people were now beginning to realize in ever-increasing numbers the worth of these government-sponsored plans. Not only did the government provide a cheap and satisfactory method of paying for hospitalization, but it also took the necessary steps to provide beds for patients and had reached the very commendable position of having seven and a half beds per one thousand population. In addition to cheap auto insurance rates, the premier pointed out that the government had kept its promise that in the event of a surplus, the money would not be taken out of the fund but would be used to increase benefits. They are fulfilling this promise, he said, by "using up some of the fat" and thereby deliberately cutting the surplus. He pointed out that the government was rapidly expanding its rural electrification program. Crown corporations, he said, had made a net profit of 3 1/2 million dollars.

There was a justifiable reaction, too, to the federal government's refusal to reinstitute price controls, he observed, and the C.C.F. was completely vindicated in its demand for these controls.

Score Inflation Policy

Premier Douglas was scathing in his denunciation of the Liberal

government's handling of the economy of the nation in the interests of the profiteers, with the dollar now only worth 55.6 cents and the grocery dollar down to 41 cents. He deplored the financing of the war effort to the tune of \$1,800 million dollars by inflationary measures. "Instead of taking the money out of your pocket the federal government was taking the value out of the money in your pocket," he charged. This, he said, was "a cowardly way to finance the war effort," inflicting as it did a cruel penalty on old age pensioners and low-income families.

Foreign Policy

He deplored also the tendency of Canada's foreign policy to adopt an attitude of "me too" in regard to the United States. He warned that there were powerful forces in the U.S. which were prepared to use the U.N. "not to maintain peace but to stamp out progressive movements anywhere they can find them" and impose discredited regimes on the people.

He commended Netru and Attlee for their outspoken stand on foreign policy, and C.C.F. National Leader, M. J. Coldwell, also came in for words of praise for his amendment in the House of Commons seeking recognition for China in the United Nations.

An increasing number of people are going to be forced to recognize that only in a socialist planned economy is there any hope of giving security to the working people of this and other countries, he concluded.

Assisting the president of the C.C.F. Women's Club, Mrs. H. Scott, with the luncheon arrangements were Mrs. J. Bagnall, Mrs. L. V. Smith, Mrs. J. E. Cook and Mrs. F. Seale.

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Personal Stuff

(Continued from page 1)

issue with the General's dismissal. MacArthur said nothing to Congress that he had not said before. But because it was said in the hearing of most of the people of the United States, and many millions in other parts of the world, his contentions are now clear to everyone: that the nation is at war with Communist China; that victory, which is "war's very object" can only be achieved by the use of every available means of war, in this case an economic blockade against China; the imposition of a naval blockade against the China coast, removal of restrictions on air, reconnaissance of China's coastal areas and Manchuria, removal of restrictions on the Nationalist forces to attack the mainland from Formosa (from the United States) to contribute to this effective operation. "He dismissed without argument the contention that such action would involve all-out war with China and Soviet intervention. He contended that 'from a military standpoint' his views 'have been fully shared in the past by every military leader concerned with the Korean campaign, including our own joint chiefs of staff. This reference to the joint chiefs of staff raised immediate questions which brought a statement from the White House that MacArthur had been dismissed on the unanimous recommendation of the joint chiefs of staff. I imagine that the explanation is that the joint chiefs of staff are not viewing the situation solely 'from a

military standpoint'.

There are plenty of answers to the MacArthur arguments and they'll be given in the next few days. But how effective logic or reasoning can be in the case of the emotional hinge which this country is now experiencing, I don't know. It would be a great mistake to under-rate the force of the popular support of MacArthur's position, and possibly as great a mistake to over-rate it. Sober comment on Truman's action in dismissing MacArthur gives support to the president. That of the Christian Science Monitor is typical: "We do not see how national policy could be carried out or military morale maintained if any commander—even one holding General MacArthur's position—were permitted to repeatedly disobey orders and publicly disagree with governmental policy." Most editorials I have read in any but the Hearst papers have said the same thing. But always they have been followed by a blast at the administration. Individual comment I have encountered has been similar. But in no case have I found anyone who is prepared to put his finger specifically on any Truman policy which he would change. That is understandable because most of the Republican opponents of the administration have been equally vague. Possibly the MacArthur incident has changed all this. Taking their cue from the public acclaim of the General's statements, maybe the Republicans can be united in support of his contentions. I doubt it.

But I started to tell about San Francisco. It wasn't until we near-

ed there, after driving from Medford, Oregon, that we realized that our arrival, at about 7:30 p.m., would bring us into the MacArthur hallelaloo. We parked the car in the Union Square garage (an amazing "underground establishment under a city park) and went to eat. When we got back, the street in front of the St. Francis hotel, which faces one side of Union Square, was jammed with people, waiting for the MacArthur party to arrive. While we were strolling up a side street to take a look at the crowd a long single line of "peace" demonstrators marched past us on the sidewalk toward the area where the mass of people were congregated. Alongside them walked some marines and navy boys, throwing out good-natured taunts. They marched right on into the crowd and we saw, the banners begin to come down—apparently pulled out of the demonstrators' hands. There was no violence, no arrests. Only a limping marine, back from Korea, showed anger as he walked beside the banner-carriers. His taunts were a bit lurid. We got our car out of the garage and started toward San Jose, and met the MacArthur cavalcade coming from the airport. Quite a show. There was a big crowd around the St. Francis hotel. But we smiled as we heard the radio commentators tell about the crowds "massed" along the route to the airport, with cars double-parked for the whole 14 miles. There was in fact a straggling of people spread out comparatively thinly, but no double-parked cars. But everything has to be the biggest ever down here, even if it isn't.

'Two Feet High'

(Continued from page 1)

topmost on the pile; I have to add at least two more."

And, bringing his stack of printed wordage up to almost thirty inches, Mr. Knowles placed on top the proceedings of two subsequent conferences between Dominion and provincial authorities, "both of which seem to have lessened rather than improved the prospect of early action on old age pension reform."

"I say to this government that if it uses the 'difficulties of dealing with the provinces or any other excuse for delaying much longer the implementation of the recommendation of the committee of last year it will incur the intense disfavor, the unending criticism,' of the people of this country from coast to coast."

"The time for action on old age pensions is now, not next year when many of the people affected will no longer be alive."

Mr. Knowles said he was far from satisfied with the \$40 figure which went into the committee recommendations last year. "Look what has happened since then to the cost of living! The result is that \$40, which is still the maximum federally for our old age pensions, is worth only \$22.50 in terms of 1935-39 dollar values."

"When the hook at the bottom of the pile was printed the old age pension in this country was \$20 a month at age 70 with a means test as long as your arm."

"What is it today? It is \$40 in 1951 currency, but it is worth only \$22.50 in 1935-39 dollars, still payable at age 70, with a means test as long as your arm. I submit that we have had enough of this kind of thing and that the time has come for action."

More Taxes

(Continued from page 1)

ordinary folk would have to carry much more of the burden, and social services would be slashed.

Labor's budget increased the tax on distributed profits from 30% to 50%, and all income tax rates have been increased by 6d in the £1. But a married man earning up to about £350 a year, and a married man with two children earning up to £1,000 a year, will pay less tax because allowances for wife and children (which are not taxable) have been increased.

Purchase tax on automobiles, television and radio sets, refrigerators (a luxury in Britain), and some other things has been doubled, but housewives will save £3,500,000 a year by the exemption from purchase tax of many ordinary household articles.

Retirement pensions of those over 70 will be increased. Those between 65 and 70 will now be allowed to earn up to £2 a week from part-time work without affecting their pension, instead of £1 a week as before.

Increased petrol tax of 4½d a gallon paid by public vehicles as well as private cars will hit everyone. So will the increased tax on cinema seats, but live theatre shows are exempted from the increase.

Spectacles and Teeth. A new departure is that there will now be a charge of 50% of cost for all spectacles and false teeth supplied by the National Health Service, except in the case of children and expectant or nursing mothers.

Conservatives are disappointed with the budget because they were hoping that more burdens would have been put on the ordinary folk so giving them an opportunity of stirring up discontent against Labor. They can hardly campaign against the increased profits tax, or for cuts in social services.

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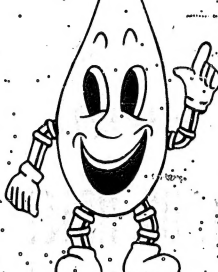
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